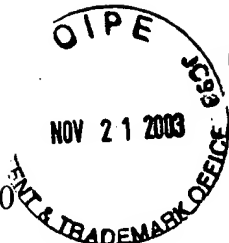


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	: 09/696,178	Confirmation No.	: 4348
Applicant	: K. FURUSAWA et al.	TC/A.U.	: 3737
Filed	: October 26, 2000	Examiner	: Rune S Qaderi
Atty. Docket No.:	P19724		
Customer No.	: 7055		
Title	: ENDOSCOPE SYSTEM		

SUBMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

Commissioner of Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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Sir:

In conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE), filed contemporaneously herewith, and in response to the Advisory Actions dated October 21, 2003, and the Official Action dated June 3, 2003, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on September 3, 2003, and which has been extended to expire on December 3, 2003, by the enclosed Request for Extension of Time, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this Response.